

BATTLE EXPECTED ON OUTSKIRTS OF VERA CRUZ

Americans Are Entrenched and Supplied With Field Guns

3 Americans Slain at Laredo By Retreating Federal Soldiers After Burning Own Town

(Special to the Bonanza.)
LAREDO, Tex., April 24, 4 p. m.—Mexican federalists wrought destruction in Nuevo Laredo, across the river from this place. They blew up public buildings with dynamite and then turned their guns across the international boundary.

The town is burning in several places. All available United States troops here were called up. Three were killed on the American side by the Mexicans' fire.

Americans attracted to the border said probably ten or twelve Mexicans were seen to fall when American troops of the border patrol returned the fire.

Among the buildings destroyed in Nuevo Laredo were the United States consulate, the city hall, a flour mill, one of the largest in this section, postoffice, theater and custom house. The fire at last reports was spreading and the city seemed doomed.

Another report said Mexicans and American troops had a brisk skirmish across the international boundary, the accurate fire of the Americans driving the federalists back. The federalists opened fire on the Americans as the federal troop train pulled out from the city. From the car windows and platforms Mexicans began a rapid fire, aiming indiscriminately at any person in sight.

FOUR TRANSPORTS WITH THOOPS LEAVE GALVESTON AT DAYLIGHT WITH STRONG REINFORCEMENTS

(Special to the Bonanza.)
GALVESTON, April 24.—Five thousand soldiers cheered and regimental bands played at Fort Crockett last night when orders were received for the fifth brigade and as many others as possible to board the transports Sumner, Meade, McClellan and Kilpatrick at daylight.

Brigadier-General Punnett left in supreme command of the brigade. The nineteenth infantry, commanded by Colonel Millard E. Waltz, boarded the Sumner. The fourth, commanded by Colonel R. C. Van Vleet, with one battalion of the twenty-eighth infantry, sailed on the Meade. The seventh regiment and E company engineers sailed on the Kilpatrick, commanded by Colonel Daniel Corman, and the remainder of the twenty-eighth left on the McClellan, commanded by Colonel Plummer with hospital corps and field batteries.

Americans Slain In Ensenada Riot

(Special to the Bonanza.)
SAN DIEGO, Cal., April 24.—Rioting in the streets of Ensenada, the capital of lower California, is reported last night and Americans are reported to have been killed. U. S. S. Cheyenne was ordered to proceed at once to Ensenada and left here at 10 o'clock last night.

Smith, ordinary seaman; C. G. De-fabir, gunner's mate, third class; Frank Devorick, ordinary seaman. Seriously wounded—H. Pullan, fireman, first class; C. M. Guilloan, ordinary seaman; M. Fitzgerald, sergeant, marine corps; J. Peoples, private; W. Ponkowski, ordinary seaman; H. J. Kappelen, ordinary seaman; W. M. Bass, seaman; C. L. Nodisick, ordinary seaman; J. L. Bennett, coxswain; K. Christy, seaman; A. G. Elbel, private; H. E. Holsinger, private; H. E. Boyle, ordinary seaman; — Robinson, ordinary seaman; J. Cantwell, no rating; A. E. Doe, ordinary seaman; L. W. Taylor, no rating; F. N. Kalmers, no rating; E. P. Peterson, private; G. Rainey, private; J. McMillan, private; F. Manz, ordinary seaman; C. R. Harshberger, ordinary seaman; H. M. McKerson, boatswain's mate, second class; J. L. Kwapick, seaman. Slightly wounded—Lieut. J. P. Lannon, ordnance officer battleship New Hampshire.

WAR DEPARTMENT KEPT BUSY WITH PRELIMINARIES

SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION
CANNOT BE OVER-
ESTIMATED.

(Special to the Bonanza.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—The receipt of a message from Carranza in which he protested against the landing of American forces at Vera Cruz and practically demanded recognition for himself today stirred the war department to great activity. The seriousness of the situation was clearly conveyed by Secretary of War Garrison when he admitted he could not tell within the "next five minutes" what orders he would have to announce. He has heretofore denied that orders "had gone" to the army. Secret instructions have gone to customs house officers, commanding officers of various sections and army and commanding officers of vessels on the east and west coasts to permit no man-of-war to enter Mexico. This is, of course, a restoration of the embargo on arms destined for Carranza. The various departments concerned in the application of such order refused to confirm the information but it had been sent.

Secretary of War Garrison approached the fact more clearly when he said all he could say was that no proclamation had been issued. The first execution of the order, so far as Carranza was concerned, would be the seizure probably of 150,000 rounds of ammunition expected to arrive tonight at El Paso consigned to Carranza.

Pending the last supreme effort which is now being made to keep Carranza and Villa neutral in the war against Huerta, the usual proclamation calling out the militia and calling for volunteers and declaring a blockade of all Mexican ports was held up.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—"I had an interview with Villa. He wishes to salute you affectionately. He says you need have no anxiety." This was delivered to General Scott, assistant chief of staff of the army, from Dr. Charles Rusk, El Paso. Scott and Villa are old friends. The message was taken to mean Villa was friendly to the United States. He said previously: "All Europe will hang its head with the United States." He denied he was consulted in drafting the Carranza note protesting against the invasion of Vera Cruz.

Villa Sends Friendly Note to United States Chief of Staff

MEXICAN JAIL SHIP AT VERA CRUZ IS TURNED LOOSE

ADMIRAL BADGER RELEASES
VESSEL FILLED WITH UNDESIRABLE COMPANY.

(Special to the Bonanza.)
VERA CRUZ, April 24.—The transport Progresso, with 1,000 convict soldiers aboard, was halted today. The captain was brought before Admiral Badger on the deck of the Arkansas. The admiral said:

"The government of the United States has not declared war, so I have no authority to capture your transport, but Americans have been killed in Vera Cruz and I cannot permit the landing of reinforcements. Unless you depart at once I shall have to take all aboard the transport prisoners."

The launch that brought the captain to the Arkansas steamed back to the Progresso. When again on board the captain turned the transport about to sea.

Official list of casualties of Americans at Vera Cruz April 22d follows: Dead—R. Percy, private, marine corps; L. O. Fried, ordinary seaman; W. L. Watson, ordinary seaman; F. P. Delowry, seaman; A. S. Stream, ordinary seaman; C. A.

ENTRENCHMENTS THROWN UP BY COLORADO MILITIA

MINERS CAPTURE TRAINS AND
SKIRMISH WITH NATIONAL
GUARDS.

(By Associated Press.)
TRINIDAD, April 24.—Fighting between the troops and strikers began again at Bunker Hill. The strikers are reported to have captured two trains. Cavalrymen are entrenching. A skirmish resulted in a victory for the guardsmen. The message said the "strikers are divided." The adjutant-general is at Rugby with a troop train.

AMERICAN CONSULS
AUTHORIZED TO LEAVE

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—Secretary Bryan announced that all American consuls in Mexico are authorized by the state department to leave.

VOLUNTEER ARMY BILL
PAVES WAY FOR RECRUITS

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—The senate and house passed the volunteer army bill, which authorizes the enrolling of a volunteer army.

ARTILLERY, CAVALRY AND INFANTRY ON WAY TO VERA CRUZ AND BORDER POINTS TO BACK UP MARINES AND SAILORS

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—President Wilson and his war staff proceeded with plans for operations in Mexico with business like expedition. Every available warship is ploughing southward to the Mexican coast, on Atlantic and Pacific. A full brigade of the first army division is shipping in transports from Galveston for Vera Cruz. This army force would place 10,000 men in the Mexican seaport.

The president told his callers there was no general campaign outside Vera Cruz planned, and no further campaign would be begun unless Huerta declared war or sought reprisal for seizure of the city.

Reports from Admiral Badger, Vera Cruz, state the city is comparatively quiet. Bands from the American fleet gave concerts in the streets. American marines and bluejackets control a radius of five miles around Vera Cruz. Normal conditions are virtually restored.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—The navy and war departments have concentrated attention on preparations for the important land battle expected almost hourly at Vera Cruz. Dispatches received by the president informed him that 1,500 federalists are expected to be joined by an additional force of 500. With 2,700 men General Maas will endeavor to recapture Vera Cruz from the Americans.

To meet this attack, the Americans now have about 6,000 marines and bluejackets ashore, with about 3,000 marines entrenched three miles out of Vera Cruz in the path of the advancing Mexicans. This was announced by President Wilson.

Officials of the navy department believe the American soldiers have taken with them several three-inch guns to assist the machine guns. Orders probably will be sent to Admiral Badger tonight to unship some of the smaller guns on the warships and place them in position in the trenches. Practice in this kind of service was held recently by warships at Culebra, Porto Rico, in preparation for the threatened taking of Vera Cruz.

The war department has communicated to Admirals Fletcher and Badger all information it had about the size of the Mexican forces that may participate in the attack. In addition to the 1,500 regular federalists under General Maas, there is a force of mixed arms of about 1,000 men, 30 miles east at Puebla and a scattered force of about 200 Mexican soldiers 30 miles south of Puebla.

Stars and Stripes Trampled Underfoot by Mob That Threatens American Property

(By Associated Press.)
MEXICO CITY, April 24.—(April 23—by refuge train to Vera Cruz)—Mobs in the streets of Mexico City were trampling under foot the stars and stripes, threatening Americans when the train, engaged under auspices of the British and German legations, left.

TROOPS, TORPEDO BOATS, RESERVE SHIPS PLACED UNDER ORDERS FOR MEXICAN PORTS ON PACIFIC

(Special to the Bonanza.)
SAN FRANCISCO, April 24.—There was unusual activity in local army and navy circles tonight when rush orders for a general movement toward Mexico were received from the war and navy departments.

The first order came from the war department and ordered the eighth brigade, under General Pershing, to entrain at earliest possible moment and go to Fort Bliss, near El Paso, Texas. This was followed by an order to Major General Murray, commanding the Pacific coast division, to hold the entire first United States cavalry in readiness for immediate departure.

The navy department messages ordered the four torpedo boat destroyers in San Francisco bay to proceed immediately to Mazatlan. The cruiser Maryland is making

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Wireless at Vera Cruz at 9 p. m. Thursday: Admiral Fletcher reports dilatory fighting which was still going on at 4 p. m. had finally been stopped by a house-to-house search and disarmament of inhabitants after three Americans were killed and 25 wounded.

(By Roscoe E. Mitchell.)
VERA CRUZ, April 24.—General Blanquet is reported on way from Mexico City with reinforcements to join General Maas, who evacuated the city and has established camp eight miles to the west. Blanquet expected to attack United States forces now in city.

In preparation for the reception of General Maas the marines are throwing up entrenchments to the west of the city. Machine guns and field pieces have been moved out to them. The range from the bay has been figured and, in case of attack, the warships in the harbor will be able to drop shells over their own men and into the ranks of the enemy. Admiral Fletcher has established headquarters on shore.

The Louisiana and Arkansas are coaling and have received orders to sail as soon as possible for Tampico. It is expected that Tampico will be the next port taken. Today Admiral Mayo sent a radio message asking about the attitude at Washington. Admiral Fletcher answered there had been no declaration of war.

for Vera Cruz with 500 fugitives of various nationalities. The position of Americans left is regarded as critical.

After news of the landing of bluejackets and marines at Vera Cruz was announced by extras, crowds of students and government employees gathered. A mob assembled in front of the American club, smashed the windows, and howled insults and threats. An appeal brought police protection. Mexicans marched through the streets singing the national anthem, shouting "Death for Americans."

An American jewelry store was looted. The American club, the leading American hostelry, and offices of the Mexican Herald, were closed, owing to threats to burn and murder the occupants.

Newspapers printed dispatches from El Paso, Laredo, Nogales and other places, taken by Mexicans, that the federal troops had gained a victory at Vera Cruz and expected to drive the American invaders into the sea.

It was announced the battleship Louisiana was sunk by a Mexican torpedo. American officials of the National railroads and Mexican Railway company were discharged so that no trains could operate except under orders of Huerta.

Diplomatic Relations Severed By the Issuance of Passports

(Special to the Bonanza.)
WASHINGTON, April 24.—Senor Algara, Mexican charge d'affaires, left Washington on the 10 o'clock train tonight. He was accompanied by William J. Flynn, chief of the secret service and two secret service detectives. Secret service men will accompany Senor Algara as far as the Canadian border. No stop will be made at New York City.

Charge O'Shaughnessy and staff have reached Vera Cruz under a military guard furnished by Huerta. They arrived on a special train carrying 150 Americans.

Senor Don Cardoso De Oliveira, ambassador of Brazil at Mexico City, has been asked to take charge of the United States embassy there.